

DOCKET NO: 203218US6RE



#9/Election
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a.s.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
KAZUNORI OZAWA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: V. CHAWAN
SERIAL NO: 09/767,811 :
FILED: JANUARY 23, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2654
FOR: AUDIO TRANSMISSION, :
RECORDING AND REPRODUCING
SYSTEM

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the Official Action dated March 17, 2004, Applicants in the above-identified patent application provisionally elect with traverse Invention I, Claims 1-54, drawn to recording and reproducing of audio signals.

The Restriction Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to distinct inventions. However, Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement based upon MPEP § 803 which states:

... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully **traverse** the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

However, if the present Restriction Requirement is not withdrawn, examination on the merits of the Claims of Invention I is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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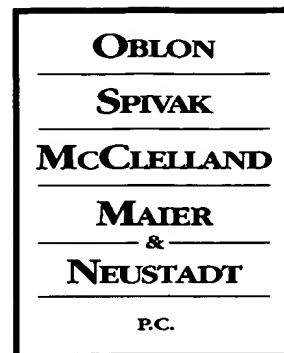
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Docket No.: 203218US6RE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



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RE: Application Serial No.: 09/767,811
Applicants: Kazunori OZAWA, et al.
Filing Date: January 23, 2001
For: AUDIO TRANSMISSION, RECORDING AND
REPRODUCING SYSTEM
Group Art Unit: 2654
Examiner: V. CHAWAN

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SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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